

MYSTERY SHROUDS SALE OF MULRONEY'S WESTMOUNT HOME

ANONYMOUS¹

Progressive Conservative Leader Brian Mulroney doesn't actually own his impressive Westmount house, which is reportedly up for sale for as much as \$750, 000.

Mulroney and his wife Mila haven't owned the stone house since November 5, 1981, according to registration office records.

¹ Anonymous, "Mystery Shrouds Sale of Mulroney's Westmount Home," *The Montreal Gazette*, Montreal, 5 July 1983, A3. [Edited by Christopher Richard Wade Dettling, 2016] See also: Anon., "Brian Mulroney vend sa maison au fils de Paul Desmarais Jr., [Brian Mulroney Sells His House to the Son of Paul Desmarais Junior]," *TVA Nouvelles*, 10 octobre 2015.

In 1981, the Mulroneys sold the family house at 68 Belvedere Road to *Iron Ore Company of Canada*, where Mulroney was president from 1977 until he entered—and last month won—the campaign for the Tory leadership.

The records only say the price was \$1 plus “good and valuable consideration.”

Julien Mackay of the *Chambre des Notaires*, Quebec’s contract lawyer’s association, says the law does not require the actual price be specified in a deed transfer.

“It is not the public’s right to know such information,” said Mackay. “I imagine the shareholders of *Iron Ore* could find that [the price] out through the financial statements.”

Mulroney will not become leader of the Opposition until he wins a seat in Parliament, a task that has been made easy for him by the resignation of Elmer MacKay in Nova Scotia's Central Nova riding.

When Mulroney becomes an MP, probably by the end of this summer, "the boy from Baie Comeau" as he calls himself can then move into *Stornoway*, the Opposition leader's official Ottawa residence.

The records show that on October 15, 1976, Mila Pivnicki, [Mrs. Mulroney's maiden name, although they were married in 1973] bought the Westmount house from Arthur Sanft, a local dress manufacturer.

But—again—the records only say the price was \$1 and "good and valuable consideration."

The *Montreal Urban Community* says the house and the 4, 892-square-metre (17, 556-square-feet) property it sits on is evaluated for tax purposes at \$431, 400.

Mulroney spokesman Roger Nantel says only the Tory leader, now on a week-long holiday in Bermuda, can say whether the house is up for sale or not.

He suggested the matter be clarified on Mulroney's return.

"The day after Father's Day, a local columnist said Mrs. Mulroney spent \$900 for a gift in a Westmount Square store," said Nantel, justifying why Mulroney hasn't commented about the house.

"We just don't have time now to ask to ask for corrections on everything, even if she only spent \$260."

Today, there is no “For Sale” sign on the property and the local real estate board does not have the house listed for sale.

Mulroney was also reported to hold a 4 per cent mortgage from *Iron Ore*, but the mortgage was never entered into the records.

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